**PRESS NOTE SPELLING BEE 2019-2020**

Spelling Bee an endeavour to instil love for words into kids also creating awareness of the possibilities of using varied words in oral and written expression, adding words to the active vocabulary of students. Ira International School conducted its fourteenth Interschool Spelling Bee Competition on 8th August 2019 on it 26th Foundation Day at Vasantrao Deshpande Hall.

A **Spelling Bee** is a competition in which contestants are asked to **spell** a broad selection of words, usually with a varying degree of difficulty. 26 schools with 273 students participated in this iconic competition. The main objective is to improve and advance the skills associated with good spelling habits of the students and development of poise and communication, vocabulary and encourage accurate word usage. The competition was of four rounds. First round was the elimination round where 273 students brains racked to spell, to move on to the stage. The second round was synonym round. The third round was the pyramid round. In the final round the participants had to spell the word verbally once. The competition was tough because students were required to spell the words, within one minute in front of a professional panel of guests, as well as a large audience of teachers, students.

The eminent personality of the theatre and professor of English [HOD] at Hislop College Dr Supantho Bhattacharya was the judge who conducted all the rounds smoothly .

Mr. Vijay Phanshikar the Editor, The Hitavada graced the event as Chief Guest. The other dignitaries present were Ms. Kalpana Jadhav,

Mrs. Kona Roy Choudhary, Mrs. Meghmala Dutta, Mr. Vikas Vaidya, Mrs. Shobha Mathur and Mr. Iqbal Kashmiri.

Dr Supantho, said the necessity of correct spelling is important as wrong spelling not only create confusion and loss of words but also the message is not clear. Dr Supantho added, a small word placed with a single sonic word can create a loss of billions. Our mistakes made in communication on line as well can also destroy relationship.

The Chief Guest Mr. Vijay Phanshikar in his address to the audience said it was a great learning experience to witness the Spelling Bee, Language lies in guess work and not natural knowledge. Language is evolved, language means any language Marathi, Sanskrit Hindi, Spanish, Latin etc, it evolves through thought process, imagining words. Language should be understood and also it’s mannerism and method. Mr. Vijay Phanshikar urged all the participants to understand the word and when we spell a word never say double the letter, spell it .

Despite the tremendous pressure of this final round Aditya Shiledar of Bhavan’s B.P Vidya Mandir, Trimurti Nagar managed to beat his competitor to secure the 1st place as the Winner of Spelling Bee 2019. Sarayu Bhutada of Bhavan’s B.P Vidya Mandir, Civil Lines was adjudged Runner Up.

Principal, Mrs. Reena Dargan thanked the Principals of the participating schools near and far for their active participation and also thanked the dignitaries for their motivational presence.

Mrs. Reena Dargan congratulated Sri Krishna Sai Singana of Ira International School one of the participants for qualifying to the final round in the 14 Spelling Bee. She proudly told that audience that Sai Krishna though could not bagged the trophy, is a trophy himself for the school and that she was proud of him.